

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05

CIAE-00 EUR-08 SP-02 L-01 INRE-00 /040 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2426

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 2466

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, CG

SUBJECT: GOZ PROPOSAL TO REQUEST OAU INVESTIGATION

REF: STATE 60205

1. REFTEL ARRIVED JUST BEFORE MEETING SCHEDULED WITH PRESIDENT MOBUTU TO DISCUSS OTHER MATTERS. DURING MEETING MOBUTU ASKED WHETHER I HAD YET RECEIVED WASHINGTON'S REACTION TO GOZ PROPOSAL, AND I REPLIED WE VIEWED IT POSITIVELY. I SAID WE WERE STILL CONSULTING WITH OUR BELGIAN AND FRENCH COLLEAGUES AND EXPECTED TO ALL SIT DOWN WITH NGUZA AGAIN ONCE ALL OUR THOUGHTS WERE COLLECTED.

2. MOBUTU TOLD ME NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR WAS SEEING FONMIN NGUZA THIS MORNING TO REITERATE NIGERIA'S OFFER TO BE OF HELP TO ZAIRE IN SORTING OUT ITS PROBLEMS WITH ANGOLA. HE SAID NGUZA WOULD RESPOND AFFIRMATIVELY AND WOULD PROPOSE THAT HE, NGUZA, PROCEED LATER TODAY TO LAGOS TO PURSUE MATTERS. REAL OBJECT OF VISIT, MOBUTU SAID, WILL BE TO PERSUADE NIGERIANS TO TAKE THE LEAD IN CALLING FOR OAU INVESTIGATION OF SHABA INVASION. MOBUTU SAID IT
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WAS ESSENTIAL THAT LATTER POINT NOT BE DISCLOSED TO ANY OTHER PARTY PRIOR TO NGUZA'S VISIT, INCLUDING BELGIANS AND FRENCH, LEST NIGERIANS GAIN IMPRESSION THIS WAS OTHER THAN PURELY ZAIRIAN INITIATIVE. FOR SAME REASON HE REQUESTED THAT WE NOT DISCUSS MATTER WITH NIGERIANS, AT LEAST NOT UNTIL AFTER NGUZA HAS MADE HIS APPROACH.

3. REGARDING WAYS BY WHICH US MIGHT HELP OAU INITIATIVE, MOBUTU THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF WE COULD SPEAK TO THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENTS: CAMEROON, CAE, CHAD, GABON, SENEGAL, IVORY COAST, RWANDA, TOGO, MAURITANIA, MOROCCO, TUNISIA, EGYPT, ZAMBIA, KENYA, GHANA, LIBERIA AND BOTSWANA. HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR US TO EXPRESS OUR CONCERN TO THESE GOVERNMENTS NOW RE SHABA INVASION, AND PERHAPS GO BACK AGAIN TO SPECIFICALLY SUPPORT OAU ACTION ONCE INITIATIVE LAUNCHED. MOBUTU ALSO LISTED NIGERIA, BUT AGAIN REQUESTED WE HOLD OFF SAYING ANYTHING UNTIL NIGERIANS HAVE BEEN APPROACHED.

4. NEITHER BELGIAN NOR FRENCH AMBASSADORS HAVE YET RECEIVED GUIDANCE FROM THEIR GOVERNMENTS. WHILE I ASSUME WE WILL BE IN POSITION TO RETURN JOINTLY TO NGUZA WHEN HE RETURNS FROM LAGOS, FACT OF MATTER IS MOBUTU HAS ALREADY DECIDED TO PUSH AHEAD WITH OAU. HE SEEMS OPTIMISTIC THAT ZAIRE'S RELATIONS WITH NIGERIA HAVE IMPROVED TO THE POINT THAT NIGERIANS WILL COOPERATE. I AM NOT SO SURE AND WOULD BE INTERESTED IN DEPARTMENT'S AND EMBASSY LAGOS' VIEWS RE IF AND HOW WE MIGHT HELP THIS ONE ALONG.

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